

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. The Examiner relied upon Kahmann et al. DE 198 16 041 (hereinafter Kahmann) to support this rejection. The Examiner rejected claims 6, 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The Examiner relied upon Kahmann to support this rejection. The Examiner also rejected claims 4, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The Examiner relied upon the combination of Kahmann and Kock U.S. Patent 3,674,205 (hereinafter Kock) to support this rejection. The Examiner also cited Miller et al. U.S. Patent 4,848,391 (hereinafter Miller) as of interest.

Claims 1-3 are cancelled without prejudice. The rejections of claims 1-3 are therefore moot. Claim 6 has been amended to recite “[a] fluid changer including multiple sections, each section including a first passageway and two second passageways, each section further including two valves coupled to that section’s first passageway, each valve permitting the fluid that flows through that section’s first passageway to be provided to a respective one of that section’s second passageways upon actuation of that respective valve, and out of the fluid changer, the first passageway adapted to permit the passage of a pig through the first passageway.” Kahmann neither discloses nor suggests this combination. Kock neither discloses nor suggests this combination. Miller neither discloses nor suggests this combination. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 6, and claims 4, 5 and 7-11, which now depend either directly or indirectly from claim 6, are entitled to favorable consideration, culminating in allowance.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite “[a] fluid changer including multiple sections, each section including a first passageway and a second passageway, a valve coupled to the first passageway, the valve permitting the fluid that flows through the first passageway to be provided to the second passageway upon actuation of the valve, and out of the fluid changer, the first passageway adapted to permit the passage of a pig through the first passageway, each section comprising a separate module, the modules being selectively removably connectable together in a desired number to permit the selection of any of a desired number of fluids in the fluid changer.” Kahmann neither discloses nor suggests this combination. Kock neither discloses nor suggests this combination. Miller neither discloses nor suggests this combination. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 12, and newly presented claims 13-18, which depend either directly or indirectly from claim 12, are entitled to favorable consideration, culminating in allowance.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 4-18, as presented herein, are in

condition for favorable consideration, culminating in allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard D. Conard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

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